

*In Memory Of*

**EDWIN WILKINSON**

**Private 266048**  
**1/6<sup>th</sup> Bn., Cheshire Regiment**  
**who died on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917. Age 24.**

<b>Born</b>	Hyde	<b>Enlisted</b>	<b>Residence</b>
<b>Died How</b>	Killed in action	<b>Theatre of War</b>	France & Flanders
<b>Additional Inf.</b> Son of Mrs. Mary Wilkinson, of 2, Top Row, Godley, Hyde.			

**Commemorative Information**

**Cemetery:** YPRES RESERVOIR CEMETERY, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium  
**Grave Reference/  
Panel Number:** VI. F. 31.  
**Location:** The cemetery is located to the North West of Ieper. From the station turn left and drive along M.Fochlaan to the roundabout, turn right and go to the next roundabout. Here turn left into M.Haiglaan and continue for 300 metres and then turn right into M.Plumerlaan. The cemetery is on the right hand side, approximately 200 metres along the road.

**Historical Information:** Ypres (now Ieper) was, from October 1914 to the autumn of 1918, the centre of a Salient held by the British (and for some months by the French) forces in Belgium. From April 1915, it was bombarded and destroyed more completely than any other town of its size on the Western front; but even to the end certain buildings remained distinguishable. The ruins of the Cathedral and the Cloth Hall stood together in the middle of the city. The Infantry Barracks stood, in part, at the re-entrant angle of the South walls. The prison, the reservoir and the water tower were together at the Western gate; and the prison was "a fine example of the resistance to shell-fire of thick walls if they are thick enough."\* Three cemeteries were made near the Western gate: two between the prison and the reservoir, both now removed into the third, and the third on the North side of the prison. The third was called at first the "Cemetery North of the Prison," and later "Ypres Reservoir North Cemetery"; and it is now Ypres Reservoir Cemetery. This cemetery was begun in October 1915, and used by fighting units and Field Ambulances until after the Armistice. It then contained 1,099 graves; and to these were added from smaller cemeteries or from the battlefields of the Salient. There are now over 2,500, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over two-fifths are unidentified and special memorials in the cemetery include those to two soldiers from the United Kingdom, buried at the Infantry Barracks, and eight buried in Ypres Reservoir Middle Cemetery, whose graves were destroyed by shell fire.